

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 29, 2017**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 29, 2017 in the Town Hall, 284 Broadway, Ulster Park, N.Y. with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor Diane McCord
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet
Councilperson Wayne Freer
Councilperson Jared Geuss
Councilperson Kathie Quick**

Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk

Supervisor Diane McCord called the Meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

PLEDGE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gloria Meschi, Ulster Avenue resident, thanked the Board for allowing her to express her concerns to the public about a project which plans to construct self storage units on Route 9W bordering Ulster Avenue opposite TEVAS. The developer had applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals for several variances in January 2016. They received approval from the ZBA with the requirement to go before the Planning Board for a special use permit. Gloria has viewed self storage units throughout Ulster County and said none of them are in a residential area. She respectfully asks the public and her neighbors to follow the project. Gloria hopes the Planning Board is strict with their directives to the developer regarding storm water drainage, fencing, lighting, signage, access and egress and surveillance. She also asked the Building Inspector to monitor the completion of each requirement. Some self storage units are attractive to drug activity and vagrants. She is concerned for the safety of the families who are long established in the well-kept neighborhood.

Roger Bouton Ulster Ave resident has been a policeman for 30 years and also shares the same concerns about the project and the safety of the children in the neighborhood. He says storage units draw the wrong type of people to the area. There is no access from 9W and the turn where the entrance or exit is planned could be hazardous. He also questioned if a proper water study was ever done on the property.

TELEPHONE ISSUES

Supervisor McCord announced the Town Hall was having phone issues. Town Clerk, Holly Netter, has been dealing with the issue for 2 weeks. Technicians have been dispatched to try to rectify the situation but there is still no remedy. Town Clerk Netter offered her email address and advised the public if they had a computer they could also find other department emails in the directory.

Honor Flight Awardees

Supervisor McCord presented Doyle Barger, Henry Bucer, Burton Feit, Robert Richter John Rubino and Donald Van Etten with the Honor Flight Award. These gentleman served our country and were Honor Flight attendees who recently flew from Stewart Airport to Washington DC. They were greeted by fabulous crowds in Newburgh as well as Washington DC. The honorees had a police escort to the various monuments and shared their stories with the audience. They said it made them feel proud that they served their county. The attendees said the plane alone cost \$60,000 and 4 flights were made from Ulster County. They are concerned for the cost for next year. ShopRite was a major donor to this program and they encouraged everyone to support ShopRite and the cause. Esopus had 6 men honored at this national event. They encouraged other veterans to take advantage of this opportunity even if they are disabled, provisions are available and it is an experience they will never forget. The honorees said they had not been thanked before and they appreciated people shaking their hands and thanking them for their service. Each vet had a guardian and they said they could want for nothing. Unfortunately Burton Feit was unable to make the meeting but he was still honored and his certificate will be sent by mail.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT ALEKSANDRA SCEPANOVIC AND ERIK SERRAS

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AT 7:50 PM TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT FOR ALEKSANDRA SCEPANOVIC AND ERIK SERRAS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ASSESSOR JOANNA MIGNONE AND ATTORNEY SEAN MURPHY WERE INVITED INTO THE SESSION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AT 8:24 PM AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED

**TOWN OF ESOPUS RESOLUTION
TO AUTHORIZE SETTLEMENT OF TAX CERTIORARI PROCEEDINGS
2016-17 ASSESSMENT ROLL**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, in the County of Ulster, State of New York, the following:

WHEREAS, there is presently pending against the Town of Esopus two proceedings commenced by Aleksandra Scepanovic and Erik Serras pursuant to Article 7 of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York to review the assessment of a parcel of real property located within the Town of Esopus, on the final tax assessment rolls adopted in 2016 and 2017, as such parcel is set forth and described in the attached copies of the proposed Stipulation of Discontinuance and the Stipulation of Settlement with respect to said Petitions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stipulation of Discontinuance for the matter pending for tax year 2016 (index number 16-2010) is approved by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus and that Di Stasi Moriello & Murphy Law PLLC, attorneys for the Town of Esopus, be and hereby are, authorized on behalf of the Town of Esopus to execute the annexed Stipulation of Discontinuance, and that same be filed with the Ulster County Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Settlement on the terms set forth in the annexed Stipulation for the matter pending for tax year 2017 (index number 17-1922) is approved by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus and that Di Stasi Moriello & Murphy Law PLLC, attorneys for the Town of Esopus, be and hereby are, authorized on behalf of the Town of Esopus to execute the annexed Stipulation of Settlement, (\$600,000 to \$525,000) and that said Settlement be submitted to the Ulster County Supreme Court for final approval and entry of the Consent Order directing adjustment of the affected tax roll and payment of appropriate refunds, if applicable.

Resolution offered by: Supervisor Diane McCord
Seconded by: Councilperson Wayne Freer

Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Kathie Quick	AYE
Councilperson Jared Geuss	AYE
Supervisor Diane L. McCord	AYE

Councilperson Freer explained the Board had discussed this matter with the Attorney and Tax Assessor to see what we need to do as a Town to come to this settlement. The decision making process had taken many hours and the dollar amount was not arbitrarily settled. Tonight was the final step in that process.

PRESENTATION RESULTS OF GRANT FUNDED OF CULVERT INVENTORY PROJECT – ERIN MOORE & MEGHAN LONG: TIGHE & BOND and DEC HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY PROGRAM

A presentation of the results of the grant funded culvert inventory project was given by Erin Moore from Tighe & Bond and Meghan Long from the DEC Hudson River Estuary Program. Erin reviewed the process that has been going on since February. She gave examples of why the culverts are assessed: connect critical habitat, flooding hazards, scouring & erosion causing settlement to travel downstream. They have developed a database of the inventory. A complete written report and flash drive was given to the Supervisor. One of the potential priorities with poor possibility was located on Floyd Ackert Road. Another moderate problem is located on Poppletown road. There are others on New Salem Rd, Laughren Lane, Swartekill Road and 2 on Carney Rd. The next step will be to develop a municipality plan to have the culverts replaced. Meghan Long said since the inventory was done, it put the Town in a position for future funding for the program. The data is shared with Cornell Cooperative and they give feedback on storm capacity to deal with extreme weather events. She was hoping funding would become available during the winter and will keep the Town apprised of the grant opportunities.

KIWANIS CLASSIC

KATHIE QUICK MADE A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO WRITE A LETTER OF APPROVAL FOR THE SECTION OF OLD 9W TO BE CLOSED FOR THE KIWANIS CLASSIC RACE TO ALLOW RUNNERS TO CROSS OVER THE WURT STREET BRIDGE BETWEEN THE HOURS 12:45 PM AND 2:00 PM ON APRIL 22, 2018. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VANVLIE. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

COLD WAR VETERANS EXEMPTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO EXTEND THE COLD WAR VETERANS EXEMPTION PER NYS CHAPTER 290 OF THE LAWS OF 2017. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

**** A LOCAL LAW WILL NEED TO BE MADE IN JANUARY 2018.**

MCS TECH SERVICES (FORMERLY MONACO CONSULTING SERVICES)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO GIVE APPROVAL FOR THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE 2018 CONTRACT FOR MCS TECH SERVICES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

CHA (CLOUGH HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES) 2018 AGREEMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET TO GIVE APPROVAL FOR THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE 2018 CONTRACT FOR CHA (CLOUGH HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

MARSHALL & STERLING EAP (EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO APPROVE THE CONTINUANCE OF THE EMPLOYEE EAP PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE 2018 MARSHALL & STERLING CONTRACT WITH EAP. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD TO APPROVE THE TOWN CLERK'S MINUTES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATION & REPORTS ARE AVAILBLE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Be It Resolved, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

Whereas, the Town of Esopus has been presented with budget adjustments and the adjustments have been examined and approved by the Town Board.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following budget adjustments be approved for payment:

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR NOVEMBER

AO. 0599.000 Fund Balance To	AO.5182.401	\$ 7,757.19
	Esopusol	

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS.

OFFERED BY: Councilperson Wayne Freer
SECONDED BY: Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet

Councilperson Wayne Freer Aye
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet AYE
Councilperson Jared Geuss AYE
Councilperson Kathie Quick AYE
Supervisor Diane McCord AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS – November 2017

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus has been presented with vouchers for payment and these vouchers have been examined and approved by the Town Board,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following vouchers be approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND	171518 - 171559	\$ 44,567.99
HIGHWAY FUND	172245 - 172266	\$ 79,038.50
STREET LIGHTS	176009	\$ 6,681.11
PORT EWEN SEWER FUND	173139 -173156	\$ 9,749.27
PORT EWEN WATER FUND	174253 -174286	\$ 19,253.78
TOTAL		\$ 159,290.65

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS.

OFFERED BY: Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet
SECONDED BY: Councilperson Jared Geuss

Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Jared Geuss	AYE
Councilperson Kathie Quick	AYE
Supervisor Diane McCord	AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

** TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING FOR MONDAY DECEMBER 4, 2017 HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

Town Winter Wonderland Parade will be December 9th at 5:30 pm. The parade starts at Medrex and continues down candy cane lane to Keyser's Funeral Home.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AT 9: 10 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR DIANE MCCORD. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk, RMC